

CHARTER,
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
OF THE
New York State Colonization Society,
ALSO,
FUNDS HELD IN TRUST
AND
FINANCIAL REPORT MAY 1, 1891.

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OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

President,

REV. S. D. ALEXANDER, D.D.

Vice-Presidents,

REV. J. D. WELLS, D.D.

W. H. SCHIEFFELIN.

Recording Secretary,

CHARLES R. PORTERFIELD, 19 William Street.

Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.

CHARLES T. GEYER, 19 William Street.

Executive Committee.

REV. S. D. ALEXANDER, D.D., *Ex-Officio*.

CHARLES T. GEYER, “

CHARLES R. PORTERFIELD, “

EDWARD B. MERRILL,

GEORGE A. PLIMPTON,

JOHN W. JAMES,

BRADFORD W. HITCHCOCK.

Board of Managers.

REV. JOHN D. WELLS, D.D.,

REV. SAMUEL D. ALEXANDER, D.D.,

REV. GEORGE W. SAMSON, D.D.,

REV. GARDINER S. PLUMLEY, D.D.,

JAMES MCKEEN,

ISAAC T. SMITH,

GEORGE A. PLIMPTON,

GEORGE PUTNAM SMITH,

HENRY B. DYER,

HON. DARWIN R. JAMES,

AMEROSE G. TODD,

WILLIAM H. SCHIEFFELIN,

ERNEST H. CROSBY,

JOHN W. JAMES,

CHARLES T. GEYER,

CHARLES R. PORTERFIELD,

EUGENE F. BARNES,

WILLIAM H. MOTT,

EDWARD B. MERRILL,

SAMUEL F. ENGS,

BRADFORD W. HITCHCOCK.

REV. ROBERT G. S. MCNEILLE.

CHARTER.

CHAPTER 241.

An Act to Incorporate the New York State Colonization Society.

Passed April 10, 1855.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

§ 1. TITLE. ANSON G. PHELPS, GARDINER SPRING, D.D., JAMES BOORMAN, W. P. VAN RENSSELAER, HERMAN CAMP, ARCHIBALD MCINTYRE, S. H. TYNG, D.D., WASHINGTON HUNT, T. FRELINGHUYSEN, J. S. SPENCER, D.D., G. P. DISOSWAY, J. W. BEEKMAN, D. A. BOOKEE, HAMILTON FISH, HUGH MAXWELL, D. S. GREGORY, L. B. WARD, JOHN B. PINNEY, J. B. COLLINS, MATH. HYDEN, FRANCIS HALL, WILLIAM McMURRAY, SAM'L A. FOOT, HIRAM KETCHAM, and all persons who now are, or hereafter declare to be, and are constituted a body politic and corporate, by the name of the "NEW YORK STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY."

§ 2. BUSINESS AND OBJECT. The particular business and objects of the said Society are to provide the ways and means and to manage, appropriate, and apply the same to colonize, with their own consent, people of color of the United States on the coast of Africa, and through them to civilize the African tribes, and also generally to improve the condition of the colored population of our country by appointing and sustaining agencies; diffusing information; collecting, receiving, appropriating, or investing funds for purposes of education in its various branches, among people of color of our country heretofore colonized, or hereafter to be colonized, in Africa, and by other means conducive to the objects of African colonization.

§ 3. GENERAL POWERS. The corporation hereby created shall possess all the general powers, rights, and privileges, and be subject to the restrictions contained and prescribed in the third title of the eighteenth chapter of the first part of the revised Statutes.

§ 4. CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS. The Constitution and By-Laws at the date of the passage of this act of the association designated and known as the "NEW YORK STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY," shall be and continue in force as a Constitution and By-Laws for the government and direction of the corporation hereby created; and the officers of such association, at the date of the passage of this act, shall be and continue officers of the corporation hereby created until removed or others are duly elected in their places; and all the estate and property which such association may have heretofore received or acquired by gift, bequest, devise, or otherwise, and at the time of the passage of this act held by them for the objects specified in the second section of this act, is hereby vested in the corporation hereby created, and said corporation may hold and may convey and dispose of the same as their estate and property legally acquired under this act.

§ 5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND MANAGEMENT OF PROPERTY. The corporation hereby created shall have power to alter its Constitution and By-Laws, or at any time to make and adopt a new Constitution and new By-Laws, not inconsistent with laws of this State, so as fully to regulate and control the admission of members, the election of its officers, their number, duties, and tenure of office, the safe keeping and management of its property, in what manner and by whom its corporate powers shall be exercised, and the administration of all other business and affairs for the due and complete exercise of all such corporate powers.

§ 6. MONEY AFFAIRS. The management and disposal of the funds, property, and estate of the said corporation, and the entire regulation and control of its corporative business and affairs shall be vested in the officers hereby appointed or hereafter to be elected pursuant to its Constitution and By-Laws, at the times and in the manner therein provided.

§ 7. ELECTIONS. In case it shall at any time happen that an election of officers shall not be made on the day designated therefor, the corporation hereby created shall not for that cause be dissolved, but it shall and may be lawful on any other day to hold an election for such officers in such manner as may be directed by the By-Laws of such corporation.

§ 8. REAL ESTATE. The corporation hereby created by its corporate name shall, in law, be capable of taking, receiving, purchasing and holding real estate for the purposes of their corporation, and for no other purpose, to an amount not exceeding the sum of fifty thousand dollars in value; and personal estate for like purposes to an amount not exceeding one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in value, but the clear annual income of such real and personal estate shall not exceed the sum of thirty thousand dollars.

§ 9. LIMIT OF PROPERTY. The corporation hereby created shall be capable of taking, holding, or receiving any property, real or personal, by virtue of any devise or bequest contained in any last will and testament of any person whatsoever; the clear annual income of such devise or bequest shall not exceed the sum of twenty thousand dollars.

§ 10. The Legislature may at any time alter, modify, or repeal this act.

§ 11. This act will take effect immediately.

CONSTITUTION.

As adopted May 4, 1885, and as amended to May 5, 1891.

ART. 1. This Society shall be called the "NEW YORK STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY."

ART. 2. The object of this Society shall be to colonize, with their own consent, people of color of the United States, on the coast of Africa, and through them to civilize and Christianize the African tribes; and also generally to improve the condition of the colored population of our country.

ART. 3. This Society shall consist of the following persons: J. D. Wells, Sam'l D. Alexander, Charles H. Nichols, Geo. W. Samson, Thomas Davenport, Henry M. Schieffelin, Isaac T. Smith, Morris J. Franklin, George Putnam Smith, Henry B. Dyer, Darwin R. James, William H. Schieffelin, Ernest H. Crosby, Ashbel Green, Charles T. Geyer, Charles R. Porterfield, Eugene F. Barnes, William H. Mott, Edward B. Merrill, Henry Gilsey, John H. Taylor, who are the officers and managers, and for some time past have been the only members of the Society, and also other persons to be chosen by them, so as to make the number twenty-two.

ART. 4. The Officers of the Society shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting regularly convened, which shall take place on the first Tuesday in May in each year, the polls being kept open from 4 P. M. to 4 o'clock 30 minutes P. M. All officers shall hold over until their successors are elected. The offices of Corresponding Secretary and of Treasurer may be held by one and the same person.

ART. 5. The officers and remaining members shall constitute the Board of Managers.

ART. 6. The Board of Managers shall have power to fill all vacancies occurring in their body or among their officers, at any regularly convened meeting, and to declare the place of any member vacant who shall be absent from all the meetings of any year without satisfactory reasons.

ART. 7. To be regularly convened, due notice of the meeting shall be sent to each member, and seven members shall constitute a quorum. Meetings shall be called by the Recording Secretary when requested to do so by any four members, in writing.

ART. 8. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society. The Treasurer shall keep the accounts of the Society, and take care of its funds and hold them subject to the direction of the Board of Managers. The Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Society, and shall keep the minutes of meetings of the Society and Board of Managers. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct all correspondence, and act as the Society's general agent, subject in the discharge of his duties to the direction of the Board of Managers. The Secretaries and the Treasurer shall hold their offices during the pleasure of the Board, but shall not be removed from office without the vote of at least ten members. In the absence of the President, the senior Vice-President shall preside at meetings of the Society and Board of Managers. If neither the President nor the Vice-President be present, a manager shall be appointed temporary chairman. The Board of Managers shall have the direction of the affairs of the Society, make by-laws for its government, and have the care, management and disbursement of its funds.

ART. 9. This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the Society regularly convened, or at any meeting held in lieu or postponement thereof, by a vote of a majority of the members present. The member proposing an amendment shall submit the same to the Corresponding Secretary, who shall furnish to each member of the Society a copy thereof at least one month previous to such meeting; or, in case of his failure to act, any member of the Board may furnish such copy at least two weeks previous to such meeting, with like effect.

BY-LAWS.

1. Regular meetings of the Board of Managers shall be held at the Society's room or such other place in the city of New York as the Board may appoint, on the first Tuesday of January, May and October, in each year.

2. There shall be an Executive Committee, consisting of the President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and four other Managers, who shall be chosen annually by the Board at its first meeting, to do the ordinary business of the Board, and report by reading their own minutes at the regular meetings of the Board; a majority of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

3. No change shall be made in any of the investments of the funds of this Society, except they be to such as are authorized for trust funds by the laws of the State of New York, and shall have been approved of by seven members of the Board of Managers in writing. Funds (except income) which at any time may be uninvested, shall be kept until invested in some Trust Company selected by the Board of Managers, and legally authorized as a depository of trust funds, subject to the joint draft of the President and Treasurer. All the invested property of the Society shall be in the name of the Society. Mortgages shall not be taken, except on improved property, the improvements being completed; nor the loans on it exceed sixty per cent. of the appraised value thereof.

4. The presiding officer at any meeting of the Board shall appoint all special committees, unless it be otherwise ordered by the resolution creating them.

5. The Recording Secretary shall preserve in a book, provided for that purpose, an accurate copy of the Charter and Constitution of the Society and of these By-Laws, and also record therein all amendments of said Constitution and By-Laws which may be made from time to time. He shall notify the Chairmen of committees

of the names of the members of their committee and of the object of their appointment. He shall notify officers and managers of their election, and perform the general duties of a secretary.

6. The Treasurer shall keep a regular account of all moneys by him received or disbursed, and shall make no payment on account of the Society, except by general or special resolution of the Executive Committee. His accounts shall be examined by an Auditing Committee within one month preceding the annual meeting. He shall render an account current at every meeting.

7. The order of business at the meetings of the Board shall be as follows:

- 1st. Reading the minutes of the last meeting.
- 2d. Report of the Executive Committee.
- 3d. Report of Corresponding Secretary.
- 4th. Report of Treasurer.
- 5th. Report of Special Committees in the order in which they stand.
- 6th. Miscellaneous business.

8. These By-Laws may be amended or altered at any regular meeting of the Board, upon proposition, in writing, stating the proposed amendment or alteration made by any member at the regular meeting preceding that at which the proposition is acted upon.

Invested Funds for Liberian Education

HELD BY THE

NEW YORK STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

1ST. FULTON PROFESSORSHIP FUND.

Extract from the Will of Joseph Fulton.

“I give and bequeath the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars unto the New York State Colonization Society, incorporated by an act of the Legislature of the State of New York, passed April 7, 1855, and the receipt of the Treasurer of the said Society shall be a sufficient discharge therefor to my Executors. Let the above bequest be paid first from the moneys received by the sale of estate of mine both real and personal.

“And it is my design and intention, and my bequest is made upon the express condition, that the said New York State Colonization Society, by its proper officers, shall invest securely and hold in trust forever the said Twenty-five Thousand Dollars, the annual interest of which shall be expended—at least so much as is necessary for this purpose—for the support of a Professor to be nominated or appointed by the officers of the New York State Colonization Society, to hold his office and to discharge his duties in the College already chartered in the Republic of Liberia; said Professorship to be called the ‘Fulton Professorship of the Colonization Society’ of the State of New York. Let the officers of the New York State Colonization Society act in harmony or with the approval of the Board of Trustees of said College in Liberia.

“But I demand that the incumbent of said Professorship, before entering upon the duties, and as indispensable to his induction into his office as a Professor on this foundation, be required to subscribe to the Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Church as held by the Old School General Assembly of the United States of America.

“And in case these requisitions are not complied with, the bequest is forfeited, and shall be refunded to my executors, and by them paid over in equal proportions to the following-named institutions, viz.: To the American Bible Society, founded in the city of New York in the year 1816; to the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, and to the Trustees of the Board of Domestic Missions of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America. In case there should be a surplus of the annual income of this bequest, after paying the salary of the aforesaid Professor, as I hope there may be, it is my will and I do hereby direct that said surplus be expended in purchasing Bibles for distribution to the members in said College of Liberia, and in premiums for excellence in the various branches of science, at the discretion and under the direction of the Board of Trustees of said College of Liberia.

“Let the Board of Officers of the New York State Colonization Society, under their advisement and counsel, commit the duty of distributing the above donations and premiums to the Board of Trustees of the College of Liberia.”

2d. BLOOMFIELD MINISTERIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

Extract from the Will of John W. Bloomfield.

“Whereas, it appears to me important that there should be a well-educated Ministry of the Gospel among the people of color, who may be fitted to become Preachers of the Gospel, Presidents and Professors of Colleges and Theological Seminaries in Africa, as the day is not far distant, I hope and trust, when such institutions may be established in that part of Africa that now is or may be occupied by emigrants, people of color, from the United States of America, I therefore devote a part of my estate to this purpose; and I advise and it is my desire that those to whom it is entrusted to carry into effect this, my object, shall be careful in selecting young men of color of piety and talents, who may be taken under their patronage for the above purpose, under an implied, though not a positive engagement, that, when prepared, they are to go to Liberia, or to some of the settlements in Africa formed of people

of color, emigrants from the United States, to preach the Gospel to their brethren who may have gone before them and to their native brethren of Africa, and to raise up seminaries of learning there. Should there be proper schools established to meet my foregoing intention in any part of Africa, to which an American people have emigrated or may emigrate before any part of the funds I hereby intend to devote to this object can be paid over, I shall leave it to the judgment of the Society to which I bequeath the same to educate these young men either in the United States or in Africa, as to them may seem best. I also recommend that the schools in which they may be educated and to which the funds may be paid be Manual Labor Schools, and for two reasons:

“*First.* It will save expense, and this bequest will educate the greater number.

“*Second.* I recommend that each scholar learn a trade, which will be of essential benefit in Africa, especially among the native inhabitants.

“Therefore, I give and bequeath to the Treasurer of the New York State Colonization Society and to his successors in office, the residue of my estate not herein otherwise disposed of, to be paid over to the said Treasurer as soon as it can be collected, after the bequests and legacies herein named are paid, in trust, to be by said Society expended in fulfilling my object so far forth as the general purposes for which said Society was formed will admit, as fast and as soon as by the said Society received and as circumstances will admit, the receipt of the Treasurer to be a sufficient voucher to my executors.”

3D. BEVERIDGE SCIENTIFIC AND GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

Extract from the Will of John Beveridge.

“*Seventh.* Should there be any residue of my estate after paying the before-mentioned legacies, I will and direct that it be appropriated in manner following, to wit: One-third part to be paid to the New York State Colonization Society in trust for purposes of Education in Liberia; the same to be safely invested, and remain as a permanent fund under their charge to aid in the found-

ing and endowment of Scholarships in connection with some College in Liberia, as may seem to them best calculated to secure to that Republic the benefits of Christian and Scientific Education.”

The one-third residuum received under the above bequest amounted in all to \$6,866.90, which by vote of the Board of Managers, September 15, 1884, was fixed at \$7,000. At the same date, by vote of the Board, the following Scholarships were consolidated into one fund, the income of which might go to students not candidates for the Christian ministry, viz.:

The Beveridge Scientific Scholarship Fund.....	\$7,000
The James N. Cobb Scholarship.....	2,000
The Sprague “	1,500
The Van Ness “ ..	500
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Amounting in all to.....	\$11,000

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

THE YEAR ENDING MAY 1, 1891.

Cash Transactions during the Year.

Balance on hand April 30, 1890,....	\$7,835.80
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RECEIPTS.

Interest on loans.....	\$2,773.67	
" from Trust Co.....	122.30	
Rents from No. 85 East 108th St....	598.52	
" " 24 Clinton Place....	1,736.35	
" " 582 Bergen St.....	52.00	
" " 584 " 	49.25	
" " 586 " 	33.25	
" " 588 " 	22.30	
Interest for Liberia College Account,	325.00	
		5,712.64
		\$13,548.44

PAYMENTS.

For No. 85 E. 108th St., taxes, etc.,	169.37	
" " 24 Clinton Place, taxes,		
repairs, etc.....	1,265.34	
" " 582 Bergen St., taxes, etc..	266.49	
" " 584 " " " " "	375.44	
Beneficiaries.....	460.00	
Expense Account.....	703.32	
Liberia College Account.....	672.00	
Loan on Bond and Mortgage...	6,000.00	
		9,911.96
Balance on hand April 30th, 1891.....		\$3,636.48

INCOME ACCOUNT.

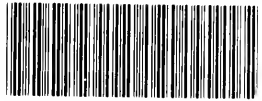
Cash received from interest on loans.	\$2,773.67	
" " " Trust Co.	122.30	
Interest received from No. 24 Clinton		
Place.....	339.00	
Net rent No. 85 E. 108th St.....	429.15	
		\$3,664.12

PAYMENTS.

To Beneficiaries.....	460.00	
Expenses.....	703.32	
		1,163.32
Surplus.....		\$2,500.80

Divided as follows:

Fulton Fund Income Account receives	1,148.59	
Bloomfield " " "	857.23	
Beveridge " " "	447.94	
Liberia College Annex Account "	47.04	
		\$2,500.80



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LEDGER ACCOUNTS.

ASSETS.

Bonds and Mortgages.....	\$65,450.00
Book value No. 55 E. 108th St.....	11,570.11
Advances on No. 582 Bergen St.....	214.49
“ “ “ “.....	326.19
Cash in Banks.....	3,636.48
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\$81,197.27

Audited and found correct,

EDWARD B. MERRILL, }
 EUGENE F. BARNES, }

Auditing Committee.

FUNDS.

Fulton Fund.....	\$33,000.00
Bloomfield Fund.....	28,000.00
Beveridge and General Funds.....	15,000.00
Fulton Fund Income.....	1,234.64
Bloomfield “.....	1,072.96
Beveridge “.....	1,164.75
Liberia College Annex Account.....	1,222.28
Liberia College Account.....	26.46
No. 586 Bergen St.....	33.25
No. 588 “.....	22.30
No. 24 Clinton Place.....	406.91
Premium Account.....	12.72
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\$81,197.27

CHARLES T. GEYER,

Treasurer.

BENEFICIARIES DURING THE YEAR.

Rev. Paulus Moort, Brooklyn.

Cornelius McKane, Burlington, Vt.

Miss F. A. M. Davis, Burlington, Vt.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



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